

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AGRE-00 SS-15 USIE-00 L-03
IGA-02 EURE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-05 TRSE-00
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 ITC-01
/083 W

-----066807 281607Z /41

O 281601Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2110
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 12891

USEEC

PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY
PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD
GENEVA ALSO FOR USMTN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, EEC
SUBJ: COUNCIL MEETING OF AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS,
SEPTEMBER 26-27, 1977, SUGAR

REF: BRUSSELS 11403

1. THE EC COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS AT ITS
SEPTEMBER 26-27 MEETING ADOPTED A REVISED SUGAR
NEGOTIATING MANDATE WHICH PERMITS THE COMMUNITY TO
ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE FINAL DAYS OF THE UNCTAD
SUGAR CONFERENCE AIMED AT CONCLUDING AN INTERNATIONAL
SUGAR AGREEMENT (ISA). A SPECIAL COUNCIL WORKING GROUP
MET ALL DAY WITH THE FRENCH IN ORDER TO BRING ABOUT A
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CHANGE IN THE MANDATE.

2. THE REVISED MANDATE WOULD ALLOW THE EC TO APPLY
"PARALLEL DISCIPLINE" TO ITS EXPORTS ALONG THE LINES
SOUGHT BY THE COMMISSION (REFTEL), ALTHOUGH EXPORT
QUOTAS PER SE ARE REJECTED. THE REVISED MANDATE WOULD
THUS ALLOW THE COMMUNITY TO UNDERTAKE INDIRECT EXPORT

RESTRAINTS AGAINST ITS "EXPORTABLE SURPLUS" IN PARALLEL WITH ACTION TAKEN BY OTHER PARTICIPANTS WHEN WORLD MARKET PRICES FALL BELOW A CERTAIN LEVEL--BUT ONLY WHEN REDUCTIONS ARE MADE IN EXPORT QUOTAS. FOR EXAMPLE, ASSUMING AN EC EXPORTABLE SURPLUS OF 2.5 MILLION TONS, IF EXPORT QUOTAS WERE CUT BY 10 PERCENT, THE EC WOULD UNDERTAKE TO WITHDRAW 250,000 TONS FROM THE MARKET. THE COMMUNITY'S "EXPORTABLE SURPLUS" WOULD EXCLUDE EC IMPORTS OF 1.3 MILLION M.T. OF SUGAR FROM ACP COUNTRIES. PROVISION FOR EC PARTICIPATION IN ISA STOCK HOLDING AND STOCK FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS ARE RETAINED IN THE MANDATE.

3. IN PUSHING THE MEMBER STATES TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THE MANDATE, COMMISSIONER GUNDELACH REPORTEDLY STRESSED THAT EC FAILURE TO AGREE ON A MANDATE WOULD UNDERMINE THEIR POSITION IN FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS OF COMMODITY AGREEMENTS AND COULD ALSO RESULT IN THE COMMUNITY BEING BLAMED IN THE EVENT OF A BREAKDOWN OF THE ISA TALKS. HINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUGAR, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRUSSE12891
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770353-0726
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS USEEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770910/aaaaailk.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 094a7538-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BRUSSELS 11403
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1060018
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COUNCIL MEETING OF AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS, SEPTEMBER 26-27, 1977, SUGAR
TAGS: EAGR, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/094a7538-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009